

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process comprising reacting a multi (primary alcohol sulfone) with a reducing agent and a halogenating agent in the presence of an amide compound present in an amount of less than 1 part amide per part of multi (primary alcohol sulfone) to form a multi (primary halosulfone).

2. The process of claim 1 wherein the multi (primary alcohol sulfone) is represented by the formula:

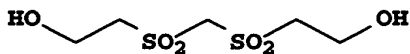


wherein Z is an organic radical having a valence of n where n is 2-6.

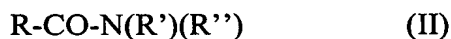
3. The process of claim 2 wherein n is 2.

4. The process of claim 2 wherein Z is methylene.

5. The process of claim 2 wherein the primary alcohol sulfone has the formula:



6. The process of claim 1 wherein the halogenating agent is a chlorinating or brominating agent.
7. The process of claim 1 wherein the halogenating agent is thionyl bromide or thionyl chloride.
8. The process of claim 1 wherein the halogenating agent is thionyl chloride.
9. The process of claim 1 wherein the amide compound is represented by the following formula (II):



wherein R, R', and R'' groups are branched, unbranched or cyclic alkyl groups or substituted or unsubstituted aryl groups.

10. The process of claim 9 wherein R is a branched or unbranched alkyl group, aromatic group, or hydrogen.
11. The process of claim 9 wherein R is hydrogen, methyl or an aromatic group.
12. The process of claim 9 wherein R' and R'' are branched or unbranched alkyl groups or an aryl group.
13. The process of claim 1 wherein the amide is present in an amount less than 1.0 part amide per part of the multi-alcoholsulfone.
14. The process of claim 1 wherein the amide is present in an amount less than 0.5 parts amide per part of the multi-alcoholsulfone.

15. The process of claim 1 wherein the amide is present in an amount 0.1 to 0.4 parts amide per part of the multi-alcoholsulfone

16. The process of claim 1 wherein the solvent is one that doesn't appreciably react with the halogenating reagents.

17. The process of claim 1 comprising the further subsequent step of converting the multi (primary halosulfone) into a multi (vinylsulfone) by contact with a base or a combination of bases in the presence of a solvent and water.

18. The process of claim 17 wherein the base or bases are selected from the alkali metal carbonates, bicarbonates, formates, acetates, and propionates

19. The process of claim 17 wherein the solvent is selected from acetone, heptane, ethyl acetate and an amide containing solvent.

20. The process of claim 1 including the preliminary step of extracting the multi (primary alcohol) sulfone from an aqueous reaction mixture.